

File 57

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	MVD Engineer Units	DATE DISTR.	20 July 1954
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Comment. The city Gerdauen has been renamed Zheleznodorozhnyy.

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	#x	ARMY	#x	NAVY	#x	AIR	#x	FBI	#	AEC		

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COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 18 June 1954

SUBJECT MVD Engineer Units

NO. OF PAGES 3

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[redacted] engineer unit found in the Border Guard Troops. Detachment and district level headquarters each possessed an organic engineer platoon. The platoon was commanded by a chief of engineering service, normally a captain. These engineer troops were responsible for the construction of and maintenance of the border control strip. 1.

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During 1951 [redacted] an u/1 MVD construction-repair battalion in Kalvaria /N 54-25, E 23-127, Lithuania. This unit had been sent from the USSR to remodel old buildings in a caserne located on the outskirts of Kalvaria. The buildings were to become barracks and living quarters for the personnel of an aviation regiment. An MGB lieutenant colonel, [redacted]

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[redacted] was in charge. The strength of the battalion was about 200-250, including many Soviet civilians. The military personnel were MVD Interior Troops, [redacted] The EM wore the blue shoulder board with red piping of the MVD Interior Troops. The lieutenant colonel in charge wore MVD Interior Troops officer shoulder boards with metallic engineer insignia.

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The battalion had no heavy engineer equipment such as cranes, steamrollers, or steamshovels.

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Other than the organic engineer platoons mentioned above, this was the only MVD engineer unit [redacted] with the Border Guard Troops. [redacted] the MVD had other types of engineer units, such as Combat Engineer Units, in the USSR, [redacted]

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2.

The Engr. Plat., 68th Border Guard Det., trained as a unit at Takhta-Bazar /N 35-57, E 62-50/. The men received instruction in basic military subjects and received engineer training on the job. [redacted]

3.

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The engineer platoon 2. had an unknown number of small engineering tools such as shovels, picks, axes, and crowbars. In addition there were three small tractors that were used to maintain the border control strip. [redacted]

4.

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[redacted] UNCODED no connection between Border Guard Troops engineer units and regular Soviet Army engineer units. [redacted]

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5.

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A. [redacted] battalion-sized labor groups (Rabochiye Divisiony and Rabochiye Batal'ony). [redacted] these were located deep in the interior of the USSR and were composed of prisoners, [redacted]

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[redacted] corrective labor camps (Ispravitel'no-Trudovyye Lagerya), where political prisoners and hardened criminals were held. [redacted] In addition, [redacted] corrective labor colonies (Ispravitel'no-Trudovyye Kolonii), which held petty criminals and short term (three to five years) prisoners. This group was utilized as a labor force for the clearing of fields and the construction of roads, bridges, buildings, etc., and included many women. [redacted] a group working on the construction of a bridge in Babushkin /N 55-52, E 37-42/ during the summer of 1952. It was guarded by MVD Guard Troops for Special Objects (Okhrana Osobykh Obyektov). [redacted]

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